

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending. The title has been amended to be more indicative of the claimed invention. No new matter has been added.

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for making claims 2-11 allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections 35 USC 102

Claim 1 has been rejected as being anticipated by St. Pierre, Jr. et al. ("Pierre patent").

Applicant respectfully disagrees for the following reasons. The Pierre patent neither describes nor suggests a microcomputer that includes a state setting means for setting the USB signal line to a level in "a non-connection state for a period before the USB interface circuit can respond to a **bus reset signal sent from the host**" as recited in claim 1.

Rather, FIG. 10 of the Pierre patent shows an interface device 30 having a microcontroller 34 coupled to a host system 20 through a USB port 40. The device 20 includes a switch 90 maintained in a non-conductive state **until** the microcontroller on the device is boosted up and has retrieved **identification codes**. (See Abstract and column 13, line 64 to column 14, line 24 of the Pierre patent) The USB port does **not** respond to a reset signal from the host system 20, in fact, the Pierre patent is silent regarding a reset signal from the host. That is, the Pierre patent does not disclose a state setting means for setting the USB signal line to a level in "a non-connection state for a period before the USB interface circuit can respond to a **bus reset signal sent from the host**" as recited in claim 1. For at least this reason, applicant submits that claim 1 is patentable over the Pierre patent.